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**OFFICE OF THE  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF MENDOCINO**

**December 19, 2024**

**RESULTS FOR JURY TRIALS PROSECUTED IN CALENDAR YEAR 2024**

**~ WEIGHTED JURY VERDICT CONVICTION RATE: 94% ~**

| <u><b>Trial Date</b></u> | <u><b>Defendant</b></u> | <u><b>Prosecutor</b></u> | <u><b>Subject Matter</b></u> | <u><b>Verdict(s)</b></u> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 01/09/2024               | Wesley T. Zynda         | Hopps                    | M DUI > .08                  | Mistrial <sup>1</sup>    |
| 01/16/2024               | Kiya N. Hodge           | Eyster                   | M DUI - Drugs                | Guilty                   |
| 01/22/2024               | Alysia J. Griffin       | Caffery                  | M DVRO                       | Guilty                   |
| 01/29/2024               | Arnold A. Kruger        | Hopps                    | M Domestic Battery           | Guilty                   |
| 02/05/2024               | Wesley T. Zynda         | Hopps                    | M DUI > .08                  | Guilty                   |
| 02/13/2024               | Robert S. Hrbac         | Trigg                    | F Child Molestation          | Guilty                   |
| 02/13/2024               | Scott A. Brown          | Kelsey                   | F Domestic Violence          | Guilty                   |
| 02/20/2024               | Nikolai Sprinkling      | Eyster                   | M DUI > .08                  | Guilty                   |
| 02/26/2024               | Jane Barisione          | Eyster                   | M Vehicular Mansl.           | Guilty                   |
| 03/04/2024               | Daniel I. Arancibia     | Hopps                    | M DUI > .08                  | Guilty                   |
| 03/25/2024               | Nicholas Tow            | Eyster                   | M DUI – Drugs                | Mistrial <sup>2</sup>    |
| 03/25/2024               | Rufino Lopez Vasquez    | Kelsey                   | F Rape of Child              | Guilty                   |

<sup>1</sup> The defendant was found not guilty of driving a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol. The jury, however, was unable to reach a unanimous verdict on whether the defendant drove a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol .08 or greater. Thus, a mistrial was declared. Ultimately, the defendant was found guilty at a retrial that ended on February 7, 2024. Pursuant to protocol, the original trial is not counted in light of the subsequent guilty verdict, which is counted as a continuation verdict.

<sup>2</sup> The March 2024 jury could not agree on a unanimous verdict so a mistrial was declared by the trial judge. Thereafter, defendant Tow's case was rescheduled for a retrial to commence on August 5, 2024 in front of a new jury. However, instead of moving forward with his August retrial, defendant Tow elected to resolve the entirety of his case. He has now been convicted of -- and is on court probation -- for 12 months for misdemeanor transportation of cannabis for sale, a misdemeanor alcohol-related reckless driving ("wet reckless") and misdemeanor driving without a valid driver's license. Accordingly, the resolution of this trial case is weighed as a **win** for purposes of office trial statistics.

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December 19, 2024

| <u>Trial Date</u> | <u>Defendant</u>        | <u>Prosecutor</u> | <u>Subject Matter</u>     | <u>Verdict(s)</u>     |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 05/06/2024        | Antonio Lopez           | Pearl             | F Vehicle Theft           | Guilty                |
| 05/13/2024        | Aaron V. Mathewson      | Hopps             | M DUI                     | Guilty                |
| 05/20/2024        | Melissa H. Derenia      | Hopps             | M DUI/Gun                 | Guilty                |
| 05/22/2024        | Devin L. Johnson        | Larson            | F Hopkins Fire Arson      | Mistrial <sup>3</sup> |
| 06/10/2024        | Matthew V. Clark        | Hopps             | M DUI                     | Not Guilty            |
| 06/11/2024        | Michael J. Chapman      | Kelsey            | F Stalking                | Guilty                |
| 06/17/2024        | John Hill               | Eyster            | M Annoying Child x 3      | Guilty                |
| 07/08/2024        | Tomas Y. Pool           | Kelsey            | F Lewd Acts on Children   | Guilty                |
| 07/08/2024        | Clayton J. Sternick     | Hopps             | M DUI - Drugs             | Mistrial <sup>4</sup> |
| 07/10/2024        | Brandon L. McClintic    | Moutrie           | F Assault By Force Likely | Guilty                |
| 07/15/2024        | Sophia F. Gonzales      | Hopps             | M DUI – Cannabis          | Not Guilty            |
| 07/24/2024        | Devin L. Johnson        | Eyster            | F Hopkins Fire Arson      | Guilty                |
| 08/12/2024        | Curtis D. Bettencourt   | Eyster            | F Assault By Force Likely | Guilty                |
| 09/09/2024        | Michael E. Blahut       | Oakley            | F Vandalism > \$400       | Guilty                |
| 09/16/2024        | Ruben Herrera Hernandez | Hopps             | M DUI > .08               | Guilty                |
| 09/23/2024        | Justin L. Hietala       | Eyster            | F Carjacking              | Guilty                |
| 09/23/2024        | Lindsay A. Nielsen      | Moutrie           | M DUI w/ Priors           | Guilty                |
| 10/07/2024        | Timothy S. McIlvain     | Eyster            | M Sexual Battery          | Guilty                |
| 10/14/2024        | Thomas A. Thorson       | Drlik             | M Restrained Order Viol.  | Guilty                |
| 10/21/2024        | Kimanie A. McKoy        | Eyster            | M Unlawful Marijuana      | Guilty                |

<sup>3</sup> The May 2024 Marin County jury could not agree on a unanimous verdict so a mistrial was declared by the trial judge. Thereafter, defendant Johnson's case was rescheduled for a new trial to commence on July 24th in front of a new Marin County jury with a new prosecutor at the helm. Ultimately, the defendant was found guilty at the retrial. Pursuant to protocol, the original trial is not counted in light of the subsequent retrial guilty verdict, which is characterized as a continuation verdict.

<sup>4</sup> The jury could not agree on unanimous verdicts so a mistrial was declared by the trial judge. Thereafter, defendant Sternick's case was re-calendared for a new trial to be heard by a new jury, jury selection to commence November 12, 2024.

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|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 10/21/2024        | Jesus A. Herrera     | Pearl             | F Vandalism >\$400 x 3  | <b>Guilty</b>     |
| 10/23/2024        | Bruce J. Gallyot     | Kelsey            | M DUI                   | <b>Guilty</b>     |
| 11/04/2024        | Jose R. Pacheco, Jr. | Drlik             | M DUI                   | <b>Guilty</b>     |
| 11/12/2024        | Clayton J. Sternick  | Oakley            | M DUI (retrial)         | <b>Guilty</b>     |
| 11/12/2024        | Jaimie Tinajero      | Drlik             | M Suspended CDL         | <b>Guilty</b>     |
| 12/09/2024        | Aldar S. Fragoso     | Pearl             | F Vandalism > \$400 x 2 | <b>Guilty</b>     |
| 12/10/2024        | Jeffery L. Hockett   | Kelsey            | F Child Pornography     | <b>Guilty</b>     |
| 12/16/2024        | Gavin B. Lewis       | Drlik             | M Domestic Battery      | <b>Mistrial</b>   |